(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry did not make serious efforts to secure gas in Myanmar;

(d) if so, whether any responsibility has been fixed by the Ministry; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas keenly pursued the import of natural gas from Myanmar. Government of Myanmar issued Letter of Intent on February 11, 2004 and subsequently signed an MoU on March 9, 2006 during the visit of President of India to Myanmar, acknowledging GAIL as a preferential buyer of gas from AI and A3 blocks in Myanmar.

However, in August 2006, Myanmar invited bids for selling natural gas from AI and A3 offshore blocks. GAIL submitted its bid. Subsequently, Government of Myanmar reviewed their decision to sell this gas through the pipeline route and invited bids for sale of 3.5 MMTPA of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). GAIL again submitted its bid. The matter was discussed in various meetings held between Government of Myanmar and Consortium in January, February and March, 2007.

In the meeting held in February 2007 between Myanmar Government and Petro China, Myanmar Government decided that the gas from Al and A3 blocks would be sold to China through the pipeline route. This development was conveyed to the consortium partners by Myanmar Government during a meeting held at Nay Pyi Taw (NPT) on March 16, 2007. GAIL impressed upon the other partners and the Myanmar Government that GAIL's pipeline offer was still the most competitive and offered optimum value for them due to proximity of India to these fields. However, Myanmar Government stuck to their decision to sell the gas to China.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of the reply to part (c) above.

Hike in fuel prices

378. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil PSUs, namely Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. are losing revenue on account of selling petrol, diesel, LPG and kerosene below the cost price;

(b) if so, the revenue so far lost during the current fiscal;

(c) whether Government propose to hike the prices of the fuels to overcome the above losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and.

(e) if not, the details of the steps proposed to be implemented to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The estimated gross under recoveries of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies on sale of sensitive petroleum products, *i.e.* petrol, diesel, PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG for the 1st quarter of 2007-08 are given as under:

(Rs. crore)

Under-Recovery*	Apr-Jun'07 (Prov)
Petrol	1,553
Diesel	4,633
PDS kerosene	4,028
Domestic LPG	2,698
Total	12,912

*Gross under-recoveries without considering, refinery discount, oil bonds and upstream assistance.

(c) to (e) Government has been taking all possible measures to ensure that there is no hardship to common man on account of price rise. Government adopted the principle of equitable burden sharing amongst three stakeholders, namely, the consumers, the PSU oil companies and the Government to protect the interest of the common man and the vulnerable sections of society. The Government is closely monitoring the international oil prices and will continue to protect the interests of consumers.

Profit earned by Oil Marketing Companies

379. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil marketing companies *i.e.* IOC, BPC, HPC, IBP have earned profit during the years, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (provisional); and

(b) if so, the details of profit after deducting tax, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the profit after tax earned by public sector Oil Marketing Companies, *viz.* Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) during the years, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 are given in the Statement.